

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 002653
ORIGIN DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PRS-01 USIA-15
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PRS: MR. BROWN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 002653

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS

THE FOLLOWING WAS PREPARED FOR NOON BRIEFING, JANUARY 3.
NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED.

GWERTZMAN (NY TIMES, JANUARY 1): "U.S. SAYS SIX NATIONS
CURB HUMAN RIGHTS"

Q: DID THE SECRETARY "REFUSE TO COMPLY" WITH THE 1975
ARMS CONTROL ACT REQUIRING A COUNTRY BY COUNTRY REPORT ON
HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AS A MEANS OF JUDGING WHETHER
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FOREIGN AID SHOULD BE GRANTED?

A: THAT IS NOT AN ACCURATE DESCRIPTION. THE 1975 LAW DID
NOT REQUIRE A COUNTRY BY COUNTRY REPORT. AT THAT TIME, THE
AID DENIAL WAS PART OF A "SENSE OF THE CONGRESS" RESOLUTION.
REPORTS WERE TO BE MADE ONLY WHEN A DETERMINATION HAD BEEN
MADE THAT A COUNTRY WAS ENGAGED IN "A CONSISTENT PATTERN OF

GROSS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS." IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH A DETERMINATION, NO REPORTS WERE TO BE MADE AND THE LAW DID NOT REQUIRE SUCH A DETERMINATION TO BE MADE, IN ANY CASE.

IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW, HOWEVER, THE DEPARTMENT EXAMINED HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES IN ALL COUNTRIES AND SUBMITTED A GENERAL REPORT TO CONGRESS WHICH DID NOT DRAW CONCLUSIONS WITH RESPECT TO ANY COUNTRY. THEREFORE, THE STATEMENT THAT THE DEPARTMENT "REFUSED TO COMPLY WITH THE CONGRESS' REQUIREMENTS" IS UNWARRANTED.

Q: HOW ABOUT THE 1976 ACT?

A: THE REQUIREMENT WAS CHANGED IN THE 1976 ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ABOUT 80 COUNTRY BY COUNTRY REPORTS.

Q: WILL OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS BE SENT FORWARD?

A: YES. AS PART OF THE CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION FOR THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THESE REPORTS WILL BE SENT TO THE HILL IN UNCLASSIFIED FORM. THIS IS USUALLY DONE IN FEBRUARY TO THE HIRC.

Q: REGARDING THE SIX STATEMENTS ON ARGENTINA, HAITI, PERU, INDONESIA, IRAN AND THE PHILIPPINES, HAVE THEY BEEN DECLASSIFIED AT CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST?

A: YES. THE STATEMENTS WERE ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED IN UNCLASSIFIED

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CLASSIFIED FORM. THE CONGRESS SUBSEQUENTLY ASKED THAT WE DECLASSIFY THEM, AND THEY HAVE NOW BEEN REISSUED IN UNCLASSIFIED VERSIONS AND FORWARDED TO THE CONGRESS IN LATE DECEMBER.

Q: DOES THE CONGRESS ALSO HAVE THE CLASSIFIED VERSION OF THESE SIX STATEMENTS?

A: YES.

Q: CAN YOU PROVIDE COPIES OF THE 80 REPORTS?

A. THESE ARE REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS, WHOSE PREROGATIVE IT IS TO DETERMINE WHETHER AND TO WHOM THEY WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE.

Q. WHY WERE THE SIX STATEMENTS ORIGINALLY CLASSIFIED?

A: WE FELT THAT SOME MATERIAL IN THEM WOULD, IF PUBLICIZED

BE PREJUDICIAL TO OUR RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES
INVOLVED AND WOULD HINDER OUR EFFECTIVENESS ON THE HUMAN
RIGHTS ISSUE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: RVFIMBRES:LGS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770174/aaaacmzu.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 3
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Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 3650680
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Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS THE FOLLOWING WAS PREPARED FOR NOON BRIEFING, JANUARY 3. NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED.
TAGS: SREF, SHUM, HA, US
To: PORT AU PRINCE LIMA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ec69b8dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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